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U.S. Attorney, District of New Jersey 970 Broad Street, Seventh Floor Newark, New Jersey 07102

U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie



News Conference Militant Animal Rights Group Members Arrested

News Conference at 1 p.m., 7th Floor Conference Rm. of U.S. Attorney's Office at 970 Broad Street, the Peter Rodino Federal Bldg. in Newark. Court appearances of two N.J. defendants and one from N.Y. to follow.

NEWARK — A New Jersey-based, militant animal rights organization and seven of its members have been charged in a federal indictment – and all were arrested today – in connection with their campaign to terrorize officers, employees and shareholders of a company that used animals for laboratory research and testing, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

The stated goal of Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) was to drive Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS), a publicly traded company based in East Millstone, N.J., out of business by encouraging its members and others to "operate outside the confines of the legal system," according to the Indictment. Among other methods, SHAC recommended "direct actions" that included its "top 20 terror tactics" to intimidate and harass and to destroy personal and real property, as described on its websites.

Among SHAC's "top 20 terror tactics" recommended and publicized on its websites: invading offices, vandalizing property and stealing documents; physical assault, including spraying cleaning fluid into someone's eyes; smashing windows of a target's home or flooding the home while the individual was away; vandalizing or firebombing cars and bomb hoaxes; and threatening telephone calls or letters, including threats to kill or injure someone's partner or children.

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